

**Town of Mansfield
Parks Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 7, 2012
Secretary – Al Montoya**

Present: Sue Harrington, Tom Harrington, Al Montoya, Julianna Barret and Jennifer Kaufman.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.
- II. The minutes for the February 1, 2012 meeting were approved with minor changes.
- III. Old Business
 - a. Management plans
 - i. The committee identified several parks that needed updated or new management plans. They are Dorwart, Moss Sanctuary and River Park.
 - b. Park updates
 - i. The Committee will tentatively conduct a walk of Bicentennial Pond to review the space for the handicap walkway on April 4, 2012.
 - ii. Tom reviewed Mt. Hope and noted that the condition of the park was good.
 - iii. Julianna reviewed Dorwart and noted that there was some evidence that residents were biking on the trails there. The impact was not very significant.
 - iv. Jennifer noted that Shelter falls has a large tree that has fallen across the river. The Parks Department has reviewed it to ensure that it is not creating damage to the river. In addition to this, the map has been taken down and will be replaced.
 - v. It was noted that the bushes in front of the blind in Common Fields will need to be trimmed.
 - c. Parks projects/grants/initiatives
 - i. Several potential Eagle Scout projects were identified: Mt Hope Bridge, Dorwart Bridge, Kiosks for Merrow Meadow, Eagleville and River Park, Moss Sanctuary Bridge, Wet are in back of Merrow Meadow and numerous benches and picnic tables.
 - d. Spring programs
 - i. There were several upcoming programs that were discussed to include: Bird & Breakfast on Mother's Day, Trails Day (Dorwart) and programs planned by the Willimantic Alliance

- IV. New Business
 - a. CIMA Event
 - i. Jennifer updated the committee on the upcoming CIMA events beginning on March 27, 2012. These events are a collaboration between the Town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut.
 - b. Walktober 2012
 - i. The applications for Walktober are due by 1 April 2012.
 - ii. The Committee identified numerous areas for this event to include: Sawmill Brook Preserve, Dorwart, Fifty-foot cliff and a scavenger hunt.
 - c. Star Party
 - i. The spring Star Party is scheduled for March 23, 2012.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Al Montoya, Secretary